



# Federal Affairs Update

Jennifer Quan  
Special Assistant to the Director  
Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting  
February 7, 2014

# Scope of “Federal Affairs”

- Track
  - Federal Budgets
  - Federal Legislation
  - Large Scale Federal Projects
- Point of Contact and Communication
  - Respond to congressional inquiries
  - Outreach to congressional offices
- Coordination
  - Governor’s Washington DC Office
  - Stakeholders /Partners
  - Tribes
  - Other State Agencies



# WDFW - FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES

## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Cooperative Endangered Species Fund
- State Wildlife Grants Partners for Fish and Wildlife
- North American
- Pittman Roberson/Dingell Johnson
- Land and Water Conservation Fund

## Environmental Protection Agency

- National Estuary Program
- Puget Sound Geographic Program

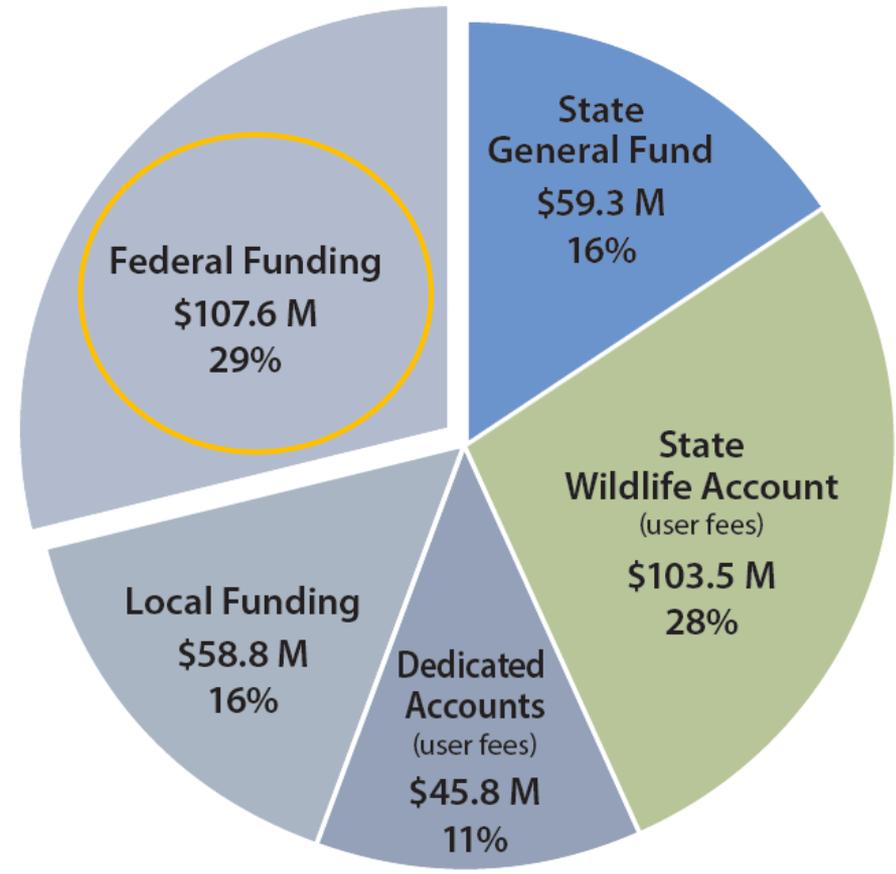
## Bonneville Power Administration

- Columbia Basin Mitigation

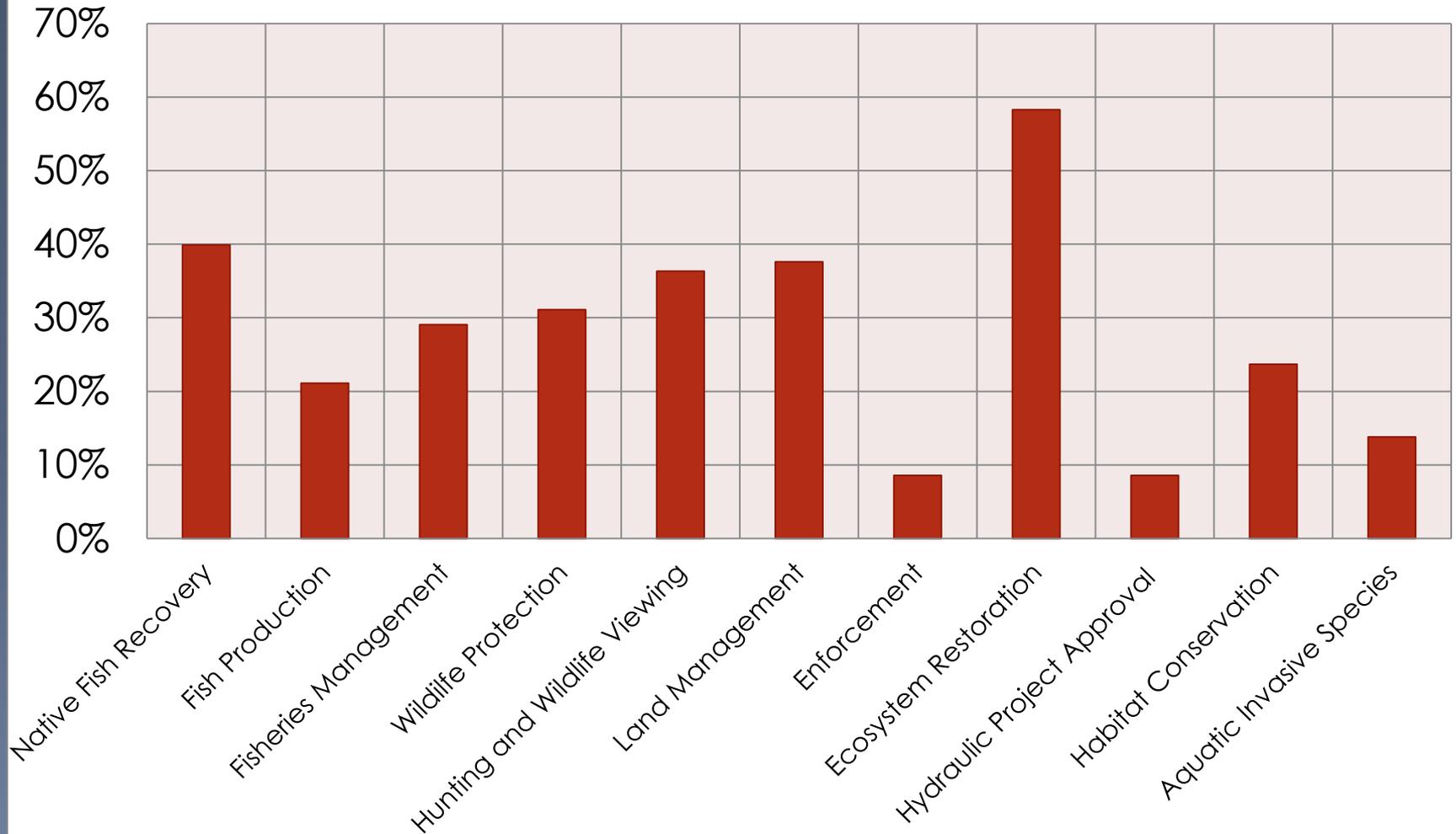
## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

- Mitchell Act
- Pacific Salmon Treaty
- Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Funds
- Joint Enforcement Account
- Marine Mammal: Prescott Grants

## WDFW Operating Budget 2013-15



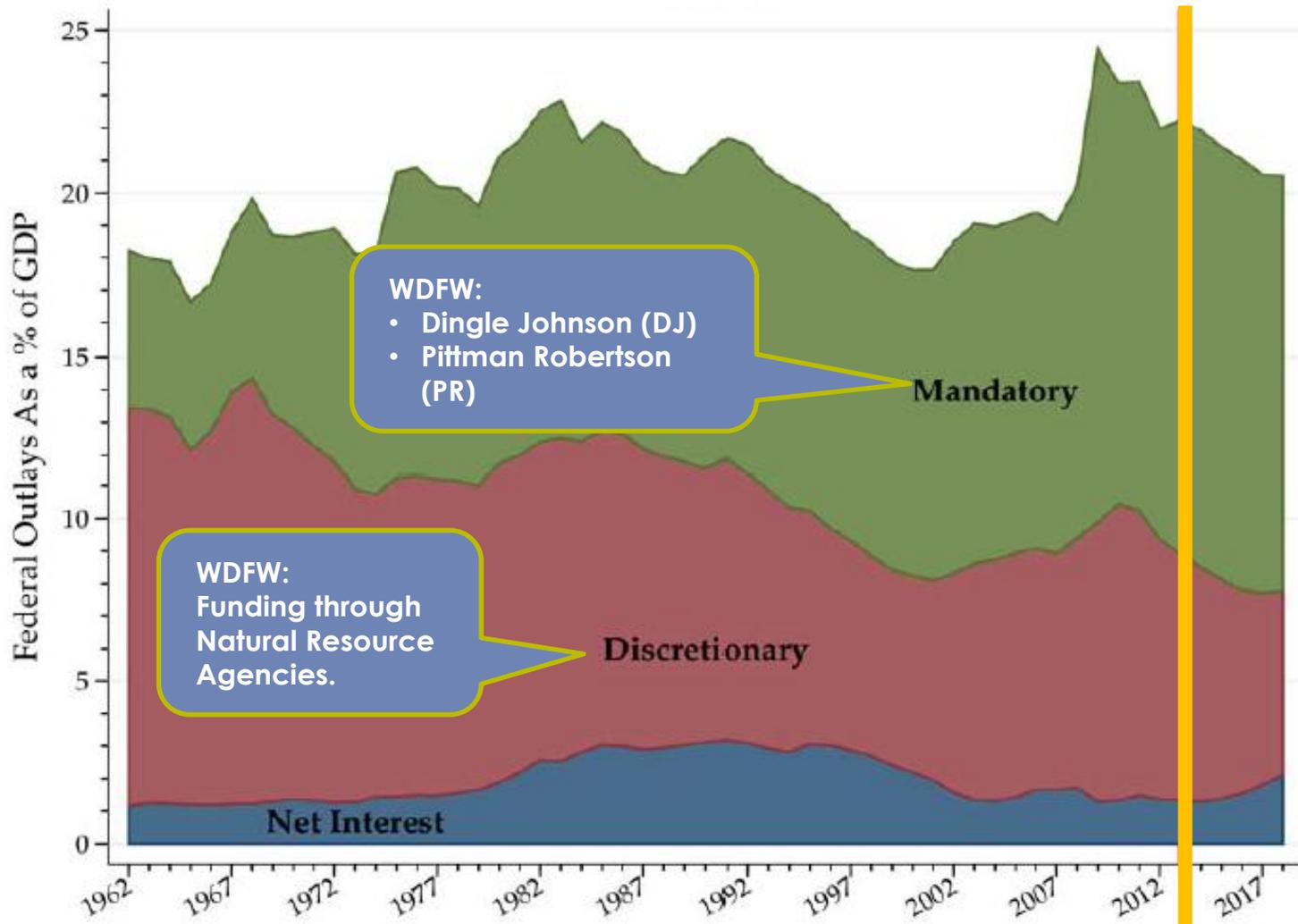
# Percent of Federal Funding by WDFW Activities



# Current Budget Conditions

- ◎ Budget Control Act (BCA) 2011
  - > Set discretionary spending limits thru 2021
- ◎ American Taxpayer Relief Act (2012)
  - > Amended BCA levels for 2012 and 2013
  - > Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2013
    - Continuing Resolution + Sequester Cuts
- ◎ Bipartisan Budget Act 2013
  - > Set discretionary spending limits for 2014 and 2015
    - FFY 2014 - Reduce BCA cuts by  $\frac{1}{2}$
    - FFY 2015 – Reduce BCA cuts by  $\frac{1}{4}$
  - > Extends Sequester Cuts to 2023

# Components of Federal Spending FFY 1962-FFY2018



Source: CRS calculations based on OMB FY2013 data.

Notes: FY2013 values estimated; FY2013-FY2018 values reflect President's budget proposals and OMB GDP projections.

# Budget Reductions to WDFW

## ◎ FFY 2013

- > Mitchell Act
  - -6% in operation/facilities
- > DJ and PR
  - Mandatory cuts -6%
- > Marine Mammal Prescott Grants - \$0
  - \$0 to WA state - Stranding Response
- > Partners for Fish and Wildlife
  - -6% to funding for Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups
- > PCSRF
  - -\$2M to WA state

## ◎ FFY 2014 *(Predicted – much still unknown)*

- > Mitchell Act
  - Added -5% in operations and facility
  - ~-\$5M Reform funding
- > DJ and PR
  - Mandatory -7.2% cuts
- > Pacific Salmon Commission
  - Carry forward/backfill exhausted
- > Joint Enforcement Account
  - WA allocation reduced
- > Puget Sound Geographic Funds
  - ~-\$5M - may impact Marine /Nearshore Projects

# AT RISK: Sustainable Fisheries and Salmon Conservation Funding

- ◎ Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (NOAA):
  - RCO: Habitat restoration
  - WDFW: Puget Sound Fisheries/Sampling and Lower Columbia River Hatchery Reform/Monitoring
  - NWIFC: Hatchery Reform
- ◎ Salmon Management Account (NOAA)
  - > Mitchell Act
    - Lower Columbia River Fisheries/ Hatchery Reform
  - > Pacific Salmon Commission
    - Ocean Monitoring Sampling
- ◎ Sport Fishery Restoration Act or “DJ” (USFWS)

# Next Steps

- **February - Debt Limit Resolution**

- > Joint letter from stakeholders

- **March - President's FFY 2015 Budget Released**

- > Response to President's Budget
- > Finalize FFY15 WDFW budget priorities
- > Submit budget requests

- **March thru September - House and Senate FFY 2015 Budget**

- > In-state Congressional meetings
  - Coordinate w/ key stakeholders and Tribes
- > Field meetings and tours

- **April - Federal Agencies develop FFY 2016 budget requests**

- > Meeting with OMB/ Federal Agency leaders/ Congressional Member's (in DC)
  - Focus on FFY15 and FFY16 budgets
  - Coordinate w/key stakeholder and Tribes

- **October - FFY 15 begins**

- > Begin development of WDFW FFY 2017 priorities

# WDFW Priority Initiatives

- Maintain WDFW federal funding levels at FFY2012 or better
- Salmon conservation and fisheries management (NOAA)
  - > Restore and Stabilize Funding
- **Yakima Basin Integrated Plan(BOR)**
  - > **Funding and Authorization Language**
- **Puget Sound Nearshore and Estuary Restoration Project (USACE)**
  - > **USACE approval**
  - > **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Authorization/Appropriation**
- Puget Sound and Marine Nearshore Grant Program (EPA)
- Farm Bill (FSA) – DONE!!!
- **Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act**
  - > **Reauthorization**
- Lands and Water Conservation Fund
  - > Fully fund

# Congressional Interests

- Hatchery Reform/ Marking/Coded-Wire Tag
- Aquatic Invasive Species
- Sea Lions/Sage Grouse/Wolves
- Columbia River Treaty
- Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion
- Fish Passage – Culvert Case
- Treaty Rights @ Risk
- Prairie Species Listings
- ESA reauthorization
- Avian Predations
- National Ocean Policy
- Climate Change

Thank You

Questions?